





# ILLUSIONS OF ADULTING

by Sara Zimmerman



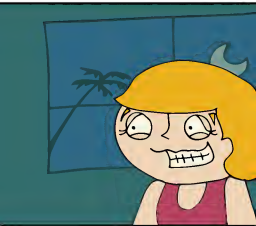
Well, it's quite a  
funny story about  
my missing earring...

...Ummmm...  
...so there was this guy...  
...and he had a knife...

A cartoon character with blonde hair and a red shirt is shown from the chest up. They have a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of shock or disbelief. Their right hand is raised with fingers spread. Above them is a speech bubble containing text.

Let me get this straight:  
You're telling me you got  
mugged for just ONE earring?


It sounds like you are lying.  
Can you just tell me the  
truth? Did you just lose it?



A comic panel featuring a character with blonde hair and a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of confusion or frustration. The character is positioned in the lower-left corner. In the background, a green sign with the word 'PIZZA' in large, dark letters is partially visible. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the character and a larger one from an unseen speaker.

Hailey... I just don't get it...

You graduated with honors at the top of your class. You have an incredible job at a firm where you continue to excel and your coworkers are jealous of your success. You know how to do so much and you are so smart, but when it comes to us...




...sometimes  
you act  
SO DUMB!

Those earring were a family  
heirloom. They were special  
to me and my family.  
I wanted you to have them







I don't want a lie, or a dramatic story, or anything else! I just want you to be realistic!

Can you be honest and admit you lost the earring?

Lost it?  
Well, I didn't exactly lose  
it... I know where it is...


...and I plan to get  
my snorkel and go  
diving to retrieve  
it tomorrow  
before work.





Diving? Before your big presentation at work tomorrow?





You know what? Forget it.  
You're not being honest or  
realistic about anything!

Steve, no!

I'm leaving  
I need some space.

OMG!  
What should I do?





I have to figure  
something out.

but, first, I should  
probably have a  
chocolate sundae